

MINUTES OF MEETING
MAPLE RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
MARCH 3, 2016

The Maple River Water Resource District met on March 3, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were Rodger Olson, Chairman; Jurgen Suhr, Manager; Gerald Melvin, Manager (by phone); Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Brenda Lovgren, Administrative Assistant; Sean Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; and Roger Vining, property owner in Casselton Township.

Minutes

It was moved by Manager Suhr, seconded by Manager Melvin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016, meeting.

Upper Swan Creek Channel Improvements

Moore Engineering, Inc. is developing plans and specifications regarding the Upper Swan Creek Channel Improvements Project. The project will include approximately 1 mile of channel improvements to Swan Creek in Sections 27 and 28 of Casselton Township. The Board discussed right of way needed for the project.

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve and authorize Moore Engineering, Inc. to offer property owners \$6,000 per acre for permanent right of way and \$500 per acre for permanent easements regarding the Upper Swan Creek Channel Improvements Project. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Lynchburg Channel / Buffalo Channel maintenance

Mike Opat continues to work on a cost estimate regarding the Lynchburg Channel / Buffalo Channel maintenance project. The Board estimated maintenance is needed on approximately 8 miles of the Lynchburg Channel and Buffalo Channel, from State Highway 18, east to the outlet at the Maple River. Additional changes are being made to the preliminary plan and profile before an accurate cost estimate can be presented. Moore Engineering, Inc. will talk with local landowners regarding the need for the maintenance project. A public hearing will be scheduled once all information is collected.

Drains #15, #37 and #39 Channel Improvements

Mr. Opat reported to the Board that survey data has been collected and preliminary plans have been developed regarding Drains #15, #37 and #39 Channel Improvements.

Profiles will be submitted to the Cass County Highway Department. The projects are on the State Water Commission agenda for consideration at its meeting on March 5, 2016. Mr. Opat will attend the meeting to address any questions on the matter.

Pontiac Township Improvement District No. 73

Jay Wadeson, Alice Wildlife Club, contacted Mr. Opat to request raising the level of Lindemann Lake to maintain the fish population. It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to deny the request to raise Lindemann Lake because it would be contrary to the elevation the property owners voted on regarding Pontiac Township Improvement District No. 73. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Opat will follow up with Mr. Wadeson regarding the Board's decision.

Upper Maple River Dam

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve *Contractor's Application for Payment No. 9* for H & S Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$119,145.85 regarding the Upper Maple River Dam. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Weed, cattail, tree and brush control

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to hire Dakota Helicopters, Inc. to provide aerial and ground spraying services for weed, cattail, tree and brush control on Maple River Water Resource District facilities for 2016. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

State Water Plan for the 2017-2019 biennium – projects / programs to submit

Mr. Opat reviewed a list of projects and programs to submit to the State Water Plan for the 2017-2019 biennium.

Metro Flood Diversion Project correspondence

The Board reviewed the letter sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement* offering comments and information on behalf of the Cass County Water Resource Districts and any regulatory authority each board has with respect to the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

Bills

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve the payment of Checks #5511 through #5517, and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Olson, Suhr, and Melvin. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

Lake Bertha Flood Control Project No. 75 – approval of Red River Joint Water Resource District Cost-Share Agreement

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the *Cost-Share Agreement* with the Red River Joint Water Resource District regarding Lake Bertha Flood Control Project No. 75. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Absaraka, Garsteig and Embden Dam repairs

It was moved by Manager Suhr and seconded by Manager Melvin to authorize Moore Engineering, Inc. to advertise for bids regarding the Absaraka, Garsteig and Embden Dam repairs. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business for the Board to consider, it was moved by Manager Suhr, seconded by Manager Melvin and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Rodger Olson
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer